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Action

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Rec'd: November 8, 1962
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Info

FROM: Managua

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 189, November 8

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President Somoza's press conference with domestic reporters and foreign correspondents included following statement his position on Cuban situation:

USIA

NSC

INR

CIA

NSA

OSD

ARMY

NAVY

AIR

JUS

TRSY

RMR

Castro continental threat and probability of collective invasion: "When U.S. sought emergency meeting, Latin America responded with unanimous support. Subsequent bilateral efforts to reach agreement have been developing because problem of bases is world affair. Khrushchev retreated and agreed withdraw offensive armament. However, Argentina has established in OAS fact that any agreement between two giants can in nowise involve our security nor set aside our decisions.

"In reality President Kennedy has not compromised freedom of action. Kennedy attitude strengthens his purposes and American unity alike but this cannot remain so. We Latin Americans believe that Castro will continue his efforts to point of completely bringing about Cuba's isolation and if this should not be enough we would seek means of collective intervention.

"Venezuela already undermined by Castroism is already collecting proofs with which to formulate accusation and propose collective action. Nicaragua thanks be to God has passed era of violence but we shall not permit this again to occur or to continue occurring in America. It is true that Kennedy made a promise but this promise does not invalidate freedom to act more energetically if problem continues.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MB

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-2- 189, November 8, From: Managua

"Now then Kennedy has not compromised our freedom of action, the only thing he agreed to was not to invade Cuba if Russia withdrew its Nuclear arms. Finally if U.S. does not join us in enterprise the Latin Americans would see how we would undertake it alone."

Published account adds President's statement that not only Nicaragua but any other country should give asylum to Revolutionary Council Cuban exiles if they were to be expelled from U.S. He also said that for past three years he has been in favor invading Cuba adding that national guard would not participate but that fighting could be done by group of patriots disposed defend American democratic ideals and put end to Castro Communism.

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